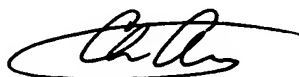


**Remarks**

This preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies in the claims to conform the application to U.S. practice. The Applicant respectfully requests consideration of this amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee.

If a conference call would be useful in resolving issues arising from the filing of this communication, please contact the undersigned at the below-noted number.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher B. Austin  
Reg. No. 41,592

Docket No. 013344-9063-00

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